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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Richard D. Lawson

Director Federal Regulatory Relations United Telephone Companies

October 20, 1993

Mr. William F. Caton, Acting Secretary Federal Communications Commission 1919 M Street, N.W., Room 222 Washington, D.C. 20036

RE: In the Matter of American Telephone and Telegraph Company Petition for the Establishment of Additional Standards to Govern Study Area Boundary Changes in Connection with the Transfer of Service Territories Between or Among Local Exchange Carriers

Dear Mr. Caton:

Attached is the original and four copies of the Comments of the United and Central Telephone Companies in the matter referenced above.

Sincerely,

Jay C. Keithley Vice President

Law and External Affairs

Attachment

JCK/mlm

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Before the FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20554

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

| In the Matter of |) |
|---|---------|
| American Telephone and Telegraph Company | |
| Petition for the Establishment of Additional Standards to Govern Study Area Boundary Changes in Connection with the Transfer of Service Territories Between or Among Local Exchange Carriers | RM-8334 |

COMMENTS OF THE UNITED AND CENTRAL TELEPHONE COMPANIES

The United and Central Telephone Companies ("United") herein respectfully comment on the American Telephone and Telegraph Company ("AT&T") September 3, 1993, Petition for Rulemaking ("Petition"). In the Petition, AT&T claims that the Commission's criteria for assessing requests to change study area boundaries, filed in conjunction with the sale of high cost local exchanges, is insufficient to check the continued growth of the Universal Service Fund ("USF"). AT&T proposes new standards that the Commission should follow in such waiver proceedings and requests that the Commission adopt a rulemaking to consider these standards.

United opposes the adoption of such a rulemaking. On September 14, 1993 the Commission issued a Notice of Proposed

Rulemaking ("NPRM") and referred the general issue of changes in the Part 36 rules governing the USF, including specifically the growth of the USF, to the Federal State Joint Board. AT&T's proposal should be considered in that NPRM proceeding. No separate rulemaking is necessary; to initiate the rulemaking AT&T seeks would at best be redundant and at worst, an administrative burden on the Commission.

Respectfully submitted,

UNITED AND CENTRAL TELEPHONE COMPANIES

D.,

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Craig T. Smith P.O. Box 11315 Kansas City, MO 64112 (913) 624-3065

THEIR ATTORNEYS

October 20, 1993

^{1.} In the Matter of Amendment of Part 36 of the Commission's Rules and Establishment of a Joint Board, CC Docket No. 80-286, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 93-435, released September 14, 1993.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I, Melinda L. Mills, hereby certify that I have on this 20th day of October, 1993, sent via U.S. First Class Mail, postage prepaid, or Hand Delivery, a copy of the foregoing "Comments of the United and Central Telephone Companies" in the Matter of American Telephone and Telegraph Company Petition for the Establishment of Additional Standards to Govern Study Area Boundary Changes in Connection with the Transfer of Service Territories Between or Among Local Exchange Carriers, RM-8334, filed this date with the Acting Secretary, Federal Communications Commission, to the persons listed on the attached service list.

Melinda L. Mills

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^{*} indicates Hand Delivery